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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9699  
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RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0066  
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0049

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 000441

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/15/2018

TAGS: [PREL](#) [AF](#) [IZ](#) [MU](#)

SUBJECT: OMAN RULES OUT REOPENING BAGHDAD EMBASSY, BUT WILL  
SEND ECONOMIC DELEGATION

REF: MUSCAT 425

Classified By: Ambassador Gary A. Grappo for Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

[¶1.](#) (U) In an interview with local Arabic-language daily "Shabiba" on June 11, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Secretary General Sayyid Badr al-Busaidi stated that the government had "no intention" of sending diplomats to either Baghdad or Kabul. He did not indicate for how long this decision would stand, but made clear that it was based purely on security grounds.

[¶2.](#) (C) In a conversation with the Ambassador on June 9 regarding the 2008 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report (reftel), Sayyid Badr stated that Oman planned to send a minister-led economic delegation to Baghdad. Without specifying a date, he added that the group would most likely travel to Iraq in the fall.  
GRAPPO